



Jewelry, Hair and Clothing

Keeping Employees Safe

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) notes that hundreds of serious workplace injuries are reported each year involving jewelry (bracelets, rings, necklaces), dangling hair and loose clothing.

This is particularly an issue for employees who work with machinery with moving parts or employees who work with clients that have tendencies to display combative or unpredictable behaviors. Necklaces, bracelets, earrings, facial piercings, hair and other loosely hanging articles can become 'grab holds' resulting in serious skin tears, strangulation and even amputation.

For employee safety, please consider the following dress code recommendations:

- Remove all jewelry before arriving to work (excluding rings) – examples include: visible piercings, necklaces, bracelets and watches.
- Keep jewelry safely secured at home. Do not leave valuables in your car or in pockets.
- Secure long hair in a bun. Long ponytails or braids must be secured under a cap.
- Ensure clothing is properly fitted. Resist loose belts or other items which can be drawn into equipment or clutched by a client.
- If you wear a medical alert bracelet or necklace, please reach out to your supervisor for personal instructions.

The advice presented in this document is intended as general information for employers. Contact your loss control consultant or visit CompWestInsurance.com for more safety tips and information.

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